THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) The total number of powered support longwall faces existing now in Coal India Ltd. for use, in its subsidiaries, is 14.

It is not a fact that longwall faces referred to in the question failed without giving any production. The longwall sets for Bhalgora and Murlidih mines have been deployed in Dhemomain and Moonidih mines respectively for geo-mining reasons and have been used for production. Supply of longwall set for J. K. Nagar Mine is presently on order. The longwall sets in the remaining mines have contributed to production.

(b) In some of the coal producing countries, production from individual longwall sets is more.

(c) During 1992-93, total production from the working longwall faces was 1.47 million tonnes against the target of 1.65 million tonnes. Production from a longwall face, inter-alia, depends on various factors like length of the face, length of the panel, neight of extraction, hardness of coal, etc. Besides, the main constraints to achieve the rated production from these faces were shortage of imported spares, geological disturbances and lack of components from Indian and overseas manufacturers.

(d) and (e) A Strategic Action Group (SAG) was constituted in October, 1988 to suggest ways and means for improving the working of longwall sets in Indian coal mines. The Group submitted its report in October, 1989 and almost all the recommendations have since been complied with.

(f) Does not arise.

Categorisation of coal reserves

278. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) what is the basis of categorisation of coal reserves as proved reserve, indicated reserve and inferred reserve ;

(b) whether any assessment has been made by Government to find out the reasons for getting the extractable reserve to the tune of 30,838 m.t. out of the proved reserve of 64,852.60 m.t. of coal ; and

(c) the manner of the utilisation of the remaining reserve of coal and what are the reasons of claiming it to be non extractable ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) Categorisation of coal reserves as "proved" "indicated" and "inferred" is based on degree of confidence of the exploratory data.

The reserves that have been calculated within a redius of 200 metres from a known point (location of borehole etc.) are known as proved reserves.

Reserves calculated within a radius of 1000 metres from a known point (borehole point etc. ;) are known as indicated reserves.

The reserves which have been estimated based on the geological continuity are known as 'inferred' reserves.

(b) and (c) Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL), the planning organ of Coal India Limited (CIL)

has assessed the extractable reserves on the basis of the existing technical expertise on mine planning and known coal extraction technologies. The manner of utilisation of the remaining reserves of coal is, inter-alia, dependant on factors like technology, extraction expertise, environment, economics etc. Portions of the reserve are non-extractable due to various mining constraints and safety regulations, such as mine boundaries, panel boundaries, safety pillars, side slopes etc.

Leasing out of Coal mines to Private Entrepreneurs

279. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI P. UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Coal Mines in the country at present and the location thereof;

(b) whether Government have decided to lease out captive coal mines to private entrepreneurs, including NRIs;

(c) whether Government are also encouraging Private entrepreneurs to set up captive Washeries to ensure better quality of coal; and

(d) if so, the names of the companies and the number of NRIs who have shown interest to undertake the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The Statewise details of coal mines in the country under Coal India Ltd. and Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. are given below:

	State	No. of coal mines
Coal India Ltd.	Bihar	161
	West Bengal	110
	Madhya Pradesh	111
	Maharashtra	37
	Orissa	21
	Assam	5
	Uttar Pradesh	4
		449
Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	66
	TOTAL	515

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 has been amended w.e.f. 9-6-1993 to provide for captive coal mining for generation of power, washing of coal obtained from a mine and such other end uses as may be notified, in addition to the existing provision of mining by a company engaged in iron and steel.

(d) Names of Companies etc. who have shown interest in Coal mining/Coal washing are as follows:

(1) M/s. RPG Industries Ltd.

(2) M/s. Kalinga Power Corporation Ltd.

(3) M/s. Nippon Dehro Ispat Ltd.

(4) Government of Gujarat (for Gujarat Power Corpn.)